

Message Text

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ACTION XMB-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01
AID-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 AGRE-00 OES-06 /044 W
-----181221 093597 /17

R 181020Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9634
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMCONSUL ZAGREB

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EO 11652: NA
TAGS: EGEN EFIN OTRA YO
SUBJ: EXIMBANK TRAVEL

REF: (A) BELGRADE 836; (B) STATE 28953

1. FINANCE SECRETARIAT VERY PLEASED THAT EXIMBANK TEAM INTENDS TO VISIT YUGOSLAVIA. SECRETARIAT REGARDS COMPOSITION OF TEAM AND DURATION OF STAY AS WELCOME SIGN OF INTEREST IN YUGOSLAV DEVELOPMENT. THE SECRETARIAT PROMISES FULL COOPERATION IN ARRANGING PROGRAM.

2. KEY SECRETARIAT OFFICIALS BEGIN TRIP ABROAD ON WEDNESDAY, MAR 16. OUR WORKING-LEVEL CONTACTS WILL RECOMMEND STRONGLY TO THEIR PRINCIPALS (WHO OUT OF COUNTRY UNTIL FEB 21) THAT SECRETARIAT DEVOTE MAR 14 AND 15 TO EXIMBANK VISITORS AND SCHEDULE A WRAP-UP SESSION AT THE END OF THEIR STAY IN YUGOSLAVIA, IF VISITORS WISH. BELIEVE IN ANY CASE EXIMBANK TEAM SHOULD REMAIN IN YUGOSLAVIA UNTIL FRIDAY, MAR 25, IN ORDER TO HAVE TWO FULL WORKING DAYS IN ZAGREB AREA.

3. BASIS OF ABOVE REACTIBD, EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT EXIMBANK
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TEAM PROCEED WITH ITINERARY OUTLINED REF B. WE HOPE ENTIRE TEAM CAN ASSEMBLE IN BELGRADE IN TIME FOR DISCUSSIONS SUNDAY AFTERNOON, MAR 13. WOULD TEAM LIKE TO GO OUT TO DINNER AT A LOCAL RESTAURANT WITH EMBASSY PERSONNEL?

4. WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING SOONEST DETAILED EXIMBANK ITINERARY AND AGENDA SUGGESTIONS BECAUSE WE ANTICIPATE MEETING

WITH FINANCE SECRETARY NEXT WEEK TO WORK OUT PROGRAM. WE SUGGEST THAT EXIMBANK, IN EXPLORING YUGOSLAV DEVELOPMENT PLANS ALLOW TIME FOR PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO ELECTRICAL ENERGY, AGRICULTURAL/FOOD PROCESSING, AND CHEMICAL SECTORS, ALL TOP PRIORITIES FOR THE YUGOSLAVS AND FOR OUR EXPORT PROMOTION CAMPAIGNS. IN THE ENERGY SECTOR U.S. FIRMS WILL NEED STRONG EXIMBANK SUPPORT TO COMPETE AGAINST COMPETITION FROM OTHER COUNTRIES; EXCEPT FOR THE KRSKO PROJECT, U.S. INDUSTRY HAS NOT OBTAINED A YUGOSLAV CONTRACT IN THIS SECTOR SINCE 1960. THE FOOD PROCESSING SECTOR OFFERS INTERESTING NUMBER OF PROJECTS RANGING FROM 5 TO 20 MILLION DOLLARS, WHICH WE PRESUME EXIMBANK COULD READILY BACK. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE OFFICER, WHO WILL BE SUPPORTING U.S. EXHIBIT AT NOVI SAD FAIR IN MAY, MAY ALREADY BE IN COUNTRY TO ACCOMPANY EXIMBANK VISITORS IN FOOD PROCESSING PROJECTS. THE CHEMICAL SECTOR HAS RATHER IMPRESSIVE EXPANSION PLANS WHICH, UNLIKE THOSE IN SOME OTHER SECTORS, SEEM REASONABLY FIRM.

5. IN LOOKING AT UTILIZATION OF EXISTING EXIMBANK COMMITMENTS, WE SUGGEST THAT TEAM MEMBERS MEET WITH JAT, HIP, KRSKO, BUCIM, FENI, USIS, RMK ZENICA, AND HEMTEKS. EMBASSY AND AMCONGEN ZAGREB WILL HAVE ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS AS PLANS GEL.

6. ONE ISSUE WHICH WILL CERTAINLY BE RAISED WITH EXIMBANK TEAM IS INCREASING YUGOSLAV RELUCTANCE TO ISSUE NATIONAL BANK "SUPER GUARANTEE". THOUGH FINANCE SECRETARIAT HAS NOT BROACHED ISSUE RECENTLY, FOREIGN TRADE SECRETARIAT OFFICIAL DID SO LAST WEEK WHEN EMBOFF MENTIONED PROSPECT OF EXIMBANK VISIT. FOREIGN TRADE OFFICIAL TOOK STANDARD LINE THAT GUARANTEE UNCONSTITUTIONAL, "DISCRIMINATORY", AND DIFFICULT TO DEFEND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN FACE OF JAPANESE, GERMAN AND U.K. REQUESTS FOR SIMILAR ARRANGEMENTS. IN REPLY EMBOFF MAINTAINED POSITION THAT GUARANTEE IS ESSENTIAL AND THAT WE PRESUME YUGOSLAVIA WILL FIND SOME WAY WITHIN THE CONSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK TO CONTINUE GIVING IT.

7. PLEASE INCLUDE AMCONGEN ZAGREB AS INFO ADDRESSEE IN FUTURE MESSAGES. YORK

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BELGRA01029
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Executive Order: N/A
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